

## **Doctoral state examination in Comparative Constitutional Law programme**

According to the Czech Act on Higher Education (see § 47 para 4), doctoral studies are completed with a doctoral state examination and the defence of a doctoral thesis. This short document prescribes the content and procedure of the former.

Doctoral state examination (further as DSE) consists of two parts:

### **A) Exam:**

You will draw one from the following topics: 1) Sovereignty and constitutional identity, 2) Constitutional judiciary, 3) Separation of powers, 4) Constitutional interpretation, 5) Democracy and elections, 6) Constitutionalism and rule of law, 7) Human rights and discrimination, 8) Citizenship and migration, 9) Constitutional amendments and transitions, 10) European constitutionalism.

Deeper general knowledge of listed issues is anticipated – apart from main theories or concepts, you may also discuss concrete books or court cases, recent developments around the world etc. If relevant, you might try to steer the debate and link the selected topic with the topic of your PhD thesis, yet expect questions falling outside thesis' scope as well.

### **B) “Small” defence of PhD thesis draft:**

You need to submit draft of your PhD thesis<sup>1</sup> at least one month before the DSE. The draft will be reviewed by an external expert, you will receive the review at least three days before the DSE. Draft and review are to be discussed in the second part of the DSE with the intention to provide feedback and give you the opportunity to improve the final text of the thesis.

**When to apply:** You shall have finished all courses of 7<sup>th</sup> semester to access the DSE, also, it is recommended to participate at the DSE at least five months before “big” defence of your PhD thesis to allow for implementing feedback received at the DSE.

---

<sup>1</sup> The text needs to reach at least 90 percent level.